

of humor and powers of persuasion, he led the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo on a path of prominence not only in our community but our country. Imam Khattab's successor, Imam Farouq Aboelzahab, described his theology: "When he talked about Islam, he talked about Islam as a religion of love and humanity. He represented Islam as a religion that cares about human beings, regardless ethnicity, national background, or religion. He committed himself to that goal." Noted as an original thinker, Imam Khattab was a true religious scholar whose teachings put him on the cutting edge of Islam in North America. Years ahead of many of his contemporaries in terms of interpretation of Islam, The Islamic Center's President noted, "He's done so much for Islam. He never had any barriers. Nobody was ever categorized. He didn't differentiate between men and women. . . . He wasn't just the religious leader. He was in our homes. He was our friend, our father, our brother, our uncle."

Able to make religion both global and personal, Imam Khattab earned an international reputation for bringing disparate groups together. Not only did he bring together the 22 ethnic groups that made up the families of his mosque, but also he promoted unity among all religions, focusing on the common themes between Islam, Christianity, and Judaism.

Although he retired and returned to Ontario in 1998, Imam Khattab remained an integral part of the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo, returning to the mosque weekly. He also served on many regional and national organizations including the Council of Imams of North America, the World Call council, and Michigan's Interfaith Roundtable.

Our deep condolences to Imam Khattab's wife Fauzia, children Khalid and Huda, brother and sisters Muhamad, Soad, and Zuhrah, as well as the entire community of the Islamic Center of Greater Toledo. The Imam may be gone in body, but his spirit lives on through the millions of lives he touched and his legacy is carried through our own work now and in the future as we build on his foundation of faith.

#### REPUBLIC OF CHINA'S NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2001*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I wish to join my colleagues in wishing the people of Taiwan the very best as they mark their National Day on October 10, 2001.

The people of Taiwan have demonstrated their dedication to human rights, political freedom, and democracy as they have consistently remained an important ally of the United States. Taiwan has expressed its support of and grief for the tragic events of September 11th and has indicated they will spare no effort in helping America win the war against international terrorism. We are deeply appreciative of their continued friendship as we extend to the people and government of the Republic of China on Taiwan our best wishes on this day of national celebration for our close ally.

#### CELEBRATING TAIWAN

#### HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2001*

Mr. AKIN. Mr. Speaker, the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) is today, October 10. I would like to recognize this day of celebration.

Americans are thankful for our faithful friends in Taiwan. We appreciate all nations that stand for freedom and oppose terrorism. I wish to extend my best to the citizens of America who came from Taiwan as they recall this National Day of Freedom in their former homeland.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SUPPORT AND FRIENDSHIP OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2001*

Mr. RAMSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank President Chen Shui-bian and Ambassador C.J. Chen of the Republic of China for their strong support of the United States in the aftermath of the hellacious acts of September 11. Taiwan was among the first to declare its unequivocal support for and cooperation with the United States, and Taiwan has offered us any assistance it can provide in combating terrorism.

Taiwan firmly believes the United States is on the right course in going after extremists and terrorists worldwide. Terrorism knows no national boundaries and seeks to destroy our democracy and way of life. Standing shoulder to shoulder with America, Taiwan mourns with America and unites with us in our mission to eradicate terrorism worldwide.

Taiwan will be celebrating its National Day today, October 10. In recent years, we have witnessed The Republic of China's campaign to return to the United Nations. I believe we should give Taiwan our support. The Republic of China is a true democracy, which guarantees fundamental rights to all of its citizens. Taiwan is also one of the most important economic entities in the world.

On Taiwan's National Day, I hope Taiwan and the Chinese mainland will one day be reunited under principles of freedom and democracy, thus leading to lasting stability and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I would like to once again recognize Representative C.J. Chen. Representative Chen is a distinguished diplomat who is always courteous and very sharp on issues. As so many of our colleagues know, his briefings on the Hill are always to the point—crisp, witty and intelligent. He has done a stellar job in representing the Republic of China on Capitol Hill, and I applaud him and Taiwan for their unwavering support.

#### TRIBUTE TO TAIWAN'S NATIONAL DAY

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2001*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Taiwan on the occasion of their National Day. The Republic of China on Taiwan is a true democracy that guarantees political freedom and civil liberty to its people. As we continue into the 21st Century, Taiwan's importance as an economic player in the world continues as they expect to become a new member of the World Trade Organization by the end of this year. Despite the relative small population of only 23 million, Taiwan has financial resources surpassing those of many Western countries.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to offer my thanks to President Chen Shui-bian of the Republic of China for Taiwan's support of our great nation in the aftermath of the September 11 attack. President Shui-bian expressed his condolences to the American people, and condemned those terrorist acts as shameful and cowardly. Taiwan was one of the first countries to declare their unequivocal support and cooperation with the United States. In addition, Taiwan has offered the United States and their allies in the war on terrorism whatever resources they have to share. In addition, President Shui-bian ordered all government flags to be flown at half-mast for two days as an expression of Taiwan's solidarity with the United States. And finally, President Shui-bian asked that all National Day celebrations be cancelled because this is a mourning time for the American people as well as for the people of Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognition of the Republic of China on Taiwan's National Day. I thank Taiwan for their friendship and support of our great nation, and I wish Taiwan and its people continued prosperity and Godspeed on their National Day.

#### CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA

#### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 10, 2001*

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic of China on its 90th National Day and to commend her people on this occasion for their remarkable efforts to make Taiwan a leader in the world through peace and economic prosperity. Taiwan's people have reason to be proud, as they have achieved a high level of freedom in their lives due to their commitment to democracy, economic liberalization, and the rule of law. This commitment will undoubtedly lead to an even greater role for Taiwan in the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank President Chen Shui-bian and his people for the support they have shown the United States after the terrorist attacks of September 11. President Chen and other leaders in Taiwan have strongly condemned terrorism and have expressed their